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09/051,547 04/07/98 YAMAGUCHI

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EXAMINER

WM01/0508

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ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2613

DATE MAILED:

05/08/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/051,547

Applicant(s)

YAMAGUCHI ET AL.

Examiner

Allen Wong

Art Unit

2613

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 March 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-17,20 and 21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-17,20 and 21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 16) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 17) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 3,5,6,7.
- 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 20) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

In response to the restriction/election, applicants have elected claims 1, 3-17, 20 and 21 for prosecution without traverse.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 3-17, 20 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Lane (5,377,051).

Regarding claim 1, Lane discloses a picture decoding and coding apparatus comprising a picture coding apparatus including picture coding means of coding picture information (fig.8a, element 102), and transmission control means of transmitting or recording the coded various information (note fig.8a, element 109 is a transport encoder that controls what is being transmitted and how the video data is prioritized, thus setting up the video information for transmission), and a picture decoding apparatus including reception control means of receiving the coded various information (note fig.9b, element 208 is the transport and priority decoder module used for controlling the received coded video information), picture decoding means of synthesizing one or more decoded pictures (note fig.9b, element 216 is a video decoder module that synthesizes the video information, preparing the video information for output), and output means of delivering

the synthesized picture (see fig.9b, note Lane discloses "To Video Display Circuit" for outputting the video information).

Note claims 10, 12-15, 20 and 21 have similar corresponding elements.

As for claims 3-5, 11 and 17, Lane discloses the prioritization of encoded video data (see col. 25 to col. 30 where Lane elaborates on the prioritization schemes, the details of how video data is prioritized, and the importance of prioritization).

Regarding claim 6, Lane discloses the determining of the priority depending on the execution rate (col.30, lines 46-50; note "3X" is the execution rate).

Regarding claims 7 and 9, Lane discloses the prioritization of intraframe coded pictures (see chart in col.30 where "intra-coded image" are prioritized at priority level 3-4).

Regarding claim 8, Lane discloses the prioritization of interframe coded pictures (see chart in col.30 where "inter-coded image" are prioritized at priority level 5-7).

Regarding claim 16, Lane discloses a real time picture coding apparatus comprising one or more picture input means for feeding pictures (note in fig.8a, Lane discloses "Uncompressed Video", ie. images taken by video camera), picture input control means of controlling the control state of the picture input means (fig.8a, element 109), other terminal control request control means of controlling the reception state of a reception terminal (col.32, lines 40-57; note Lane discloses the "handshaking signals" must be exchanged between the receiver end and the transmission end (VTR), thus Lane discloses the other terminal request control means), coding process decision means of determining the coding method of pictures depending on at least the

controlled reception state of the reception terminal or the control state of said picture input means (col.25, lines 23-42; Lane discloses the identification of various data types and thus by identifying the various video data types, the picture coding method will be determined), picture coding means for coding said input picture according to the result of decision by the coding process decision means (fig.8a, element 109 , the transport encoder will code the video information in an according manner), and output means of delivering the coded picture (see fig.8a, note the video information is outputted from element 109 to element 110, then to element 112, the transmitter antenna, for delivering the coded picture).

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Allen Wong whose telephone number is (703) 306-5978. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays to Thursdays from 8am-6pm.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christopher Kelley can be reached on (703) 305-4856. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-5359 for regular communications and (703) 308-6306 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

Application/Control Number: 09/051,547
Art Unit: 2613

Page 5

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April 25, 2001


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